

**Iowa Department of Natural Resources  
Natural Resource Commission**

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ITEM	11	DECISION
TOPIC	<b>Contract with Natural Resources, Inc., for Bat Survey of Five Iowa Counties</b>	

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The Natural Resource Commission is requested to approve a contract with Natural Resources, Inc., of Independence, Iowa, contingent upon receiving a federal grant. Approval is being requested at this time to allow the contractor begin work in early May if the grant is received by April 15 and all federal approvals are complete. The contract will be for a fixed fee of \$150,000.

The Department submitted a grant application to the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service to fund a multi-state, multi-species wind energy habitat conservation plan (HCP). The HCP will provide conservation benefits to species protected under the Endangered Species Act. In Iowa, the Indiana bat will be the primary focus of the proposed project.

An RFP to conduct acoustical monitoring at a minimum of 50 sites, mist net surveys at a minimum of 20 sites, and radio telemetry tracking of up to 20 Indiana bats in Adams, Dallas, Fremont, Guthrie and Pottawattamie counties was posted in February. One bid proposal was received from Natural Resources, Inc. located in Independence, Iowa. The company and key personnel are well qualified to conduct the study. The survey will be conducted during the summer of 2010 if federal approvals are received and a contract is signed by June 1, 2010. If there is a delay past June 1, 2010, the survey work will be completed by July 15, 2011.

Travis Baker, Land & Waters Bureau Chief  
Conservation and Recreation Division  
April 8, 2010